

14. (Twice amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the precursor(s) comprise a mixture of  $\beta$ -diketonate [compound] compounds selected from the group consisting of  $\text{La}(\text{thd})_3$ ,  $\text{Ca}(\text{thd})_2$  and  $\text{Mn}(\text{thd})_3$ .

27. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said [thin film] manganate material has a Curie temperature [above 273°K] that is between 273 K and 334 K.

Please add the following new claim:

28. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein said manganate material is annealed in oxygen.

#### REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 7-17, 19, 21, 27 and 28 are pending.

#### Objection of Claims Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75

In the May 9, 2002 Office Action:

claim 6 was objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim;

claims 14 and 27 were objected to due to typographical informalities; and

claims 18, 20 and 22 were objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claims 17, 19 and 21 respectively.